

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Cochise County Community College District

Issue Title: Increase In-state Tuition

Issue Priority: 1

Reduction Amounts:

Total: \$

Amount: \$

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

The District would consider increasing in-state tuition up to \$10 per student credit hour. This increase would generate substitution revenue thereby enabling the District to return a proportional amount of appropriated General Funds to the state and at the same time continue to provide essential educational opportunities to our constituents.

- Failure to implement an increase would cause the District to implement deeper cuts to academic programs that serve the state's workforce needs.
- A possible alternative for generating similar revenues would be to implement an increase to our property tax rate by an additional \$.10. Such a change would require repealing statutes that restrict the maximum amount of property tax levied by a community college district.
- Significantly increasing tuition runs counter to the mission of community colleges which is to provide accessible and affordable educational opportunities. The role of the community college to provide economic recovery through enhancing a skilled workforce has been well documented. Restricting access and affordability to the college by raising tuition will only slow the recovery process.
- Any increase in the District's tuition rate must be approved by its Governing Board.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Cochise County Community College District

Issue Title: Eliminate High Cost Academic Programs

Issue Priority: 2

Reduction Amounts:

Total: \$

Amount: \$

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

The District proposes to eliminate at least one (1) high cost, well-subscribed academic programs (as unproductive programs have already been eliminated). Such a proposal would result in Reduction In Force of faculty and staff and would also interrupt and displace any students currently participating in those programs.

- The District's higher cost programs consist of those fields most related to career and technical education, as well as those in high demand by employers. They are also the programs that have been identified as necessary to generate vital workforce skills required to stimulate the economy.
- The programs being considered would be of regional impact.
- The alternative would be to cut several lower cost programs, many of which would be general education/transfer courses that would impact a significant cross-section of curricula and expand the time required for students to complete degrees and certificate programs.
- Cutting an academic program requires phasing out coursework in order to accommodate those already in the program; therefore, actual cost savings cannot be realized for several years.
- Reduction in workforce during this economic downturn would only add to unemployment and further compound economic issues for the state.
- Any cuts in academic programs will require approval from the District's Governing Board.

October 9, 2009

**STATE OF ARIZONA
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Cochise County Community College District

Issue Title: Cancel Participation in Department of Correction Educational Programs

Issue Priority: 3

Reduction Amounts:

Total: \$

Amount: \$

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

The District would cancel participation in Department of Correction educational programs. The District is contracted by the Arizona Department of Corrections to carry out educational programs at its Douglas prison. The contract requires an institutional matching commitment. The commitment includes Director and support salary as well as an operational budget. Such a proposal would result in Reduction In Force of these staff as well as the termination of faculty hired under the terms of the contract.

- Studies have shown that inmates who receive educational opportunities while incarcerated experience significantly lower levels of recidivism than those who do not take advantage of these opportunities.
- An alternative of cancelling participation in these programs would be for the Department of Corrections to fully fund the District's services, with no matching requirement, through their contract.
- Reduction in workforce during this economic downturn would only add to unemployment and further compound economic issues for the state.
- Termination of the Department of Corrections contract will require approval from the District's Governing Board.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Cochise County Community College District

Issue Title: Implement Cuts to Individual Department Budgets

Issue Priority: 4

Reduction Amounts:

Total: \$

Amount: \$

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

The District has already reduced the non-personnel budgets of all of its departments by 5% going into the current fiscal year. We propose to further cut departmental non-personnel as well as part-time personnel budgets.

- Enrollment is up across the district (9.6%) requiring increased, not decreased, operational expenditures for consumables. Current financial support of departments is already low. Additional cuts would reflect poorly on the quality of the District's educational programs.
- Cuts of this magnitude would require a paradigm shift from a model of hiring qualified part-time faculty to increasing the teaching loads of fulltime faculty. Community colleges are already the most cost efficient higher educational institutions largely because of the greater course loads currently required of their fulltime faculty. Increasing these loads even further would erode quality instruction.
- Increasing fulltime faculty loads alone would not generate the savings required of the OSPB request. Therefore, these cuts would result in curtailing and/or eliminating course offerings thereby extending the time required to complete a degree or certificate program.
- Any adjustment to the faculty course load policy would require approval from the District's Governing Board.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Cochise County Community College District

Issue Title: Eliminate Community-Based Outreach Programs

Issue Priority: 5

Reduction Amounts:

Total: \$

Amount: \$

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

The District would propose to eliminate some, or several, community-based, outreach workforce development-related programs. These are highly visible programs that assist businesses and communities in monitoring and generating local economic activity. Such a proposal would result in Reduction In Force of faculty and staff.

- These programs are critical to the local economic, cultural, and quality of life of our rural communities; eliminating these programs would leave southeastern Arizona communities with no community support systems at all.
- Reduction in workforce during this economic downturn would only add to unemployment and further compound economic issues for the state.
- Elimination of any community-based outreach programs would require approval from the District's Governing Board.